



**4310-RK-M**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Office of the Secretary**

**43 CFR Part 2**

**RIN 1090-AA94**

**Privacy Act Regulations; Exemption for the Debarment and Suspension Program**

**[145D0102DM DLSN00000.000000 DS62400000 DX62401]**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, Interior.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Interior is issuing a final rule to amend its regulations to exempt certain records of the Debarment and Suspension Program system of records from particular provisions of the Privacy Act because these records contain investigatory material.

**DATES:** This final rule is effective [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS FROM PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Teri Barnett, Departmental Privacy Officer, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street N.W., Mail Stop 5547 MIB, Washington, D.C. 20240. E-mail at [privacy@ios.doi.gov](mailto:privacy@ios.doi.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

The Department of the Interior (DOI) published a notice of proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register, 76 FR 52295, August 22, 2011, proposing to exempt certain records of the Debarment and Suspension Program system of records from one or more provisions of the Privacy Act because these records contain investigatory material within the provision of 5 U.S.C.

552a(k)(2) and (k)(5). The Debarment and Suspension Program system of records notice was published concurrently in the Federal Register, 76 FR 52341, August 22, 2011, and comments were invited on both the notice of proposed rulemaking and system of records notice. DOI received no comments on the notice of proposed rulemaking or system of records notice and will therefore implement the rulemaking as proposed.

## **Procedural Requirements**

### **1. Regulatory Planning and Review (E.O. 12866).**

Executive Order 12866 provides that the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs in the Office of Management and Budget will review all significant rules. The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has determined that this rule is not significant.

Executive Order 13563 reaffirms the principles of E.O. 12866 while calling for improvements in the nation's regulatory system to promote predictability, to reduce uncertainty, and to use the best, most innovative, and least burdensome tools for achieving regulatory ends. The executive order directs agencies to consider regulatory approaches that reduce burdens and maintain flexibility and freedom of choice for the public where these approaches are relevant, feasible, and consistent with regulatory objectives. E.O. 13563 emphasizes further that regulations must be based on the best available science and that the rulemaking process must allow for public participation and an open exchange of ideas. We have developed this rule in a manner consistent with these requirements.

### **2. Regulatory Flexibility Act.**

The Department of the Interior certifies that this document will not have a significant economic effect on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601, et seq.). This rule does not impose a requirement for small businesses to report or

keep records on any of the requirements contained in this rule. The exemptions to the Privacy Act apply to individuals, not to entities covered under the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

### **3. Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA).**

This rule is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804(2), the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act. This rule:

- a. Does not have an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more.
- b. Will not cause a major increase in costs or prices for consumers, individual industries, Federal, State, or local government agencies, or geographic regions.
- c. Does not have significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or the ability of United States-based enterprises to compete with foreign-based enterprises.

### **4. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.**

This rule does not impose an unfunded mandate on State, local, or tribal governments in the aggregate, or on the private sector, of more than \$100 million per year. The rule does not have a significant or unique effect on State, local, or tribal governments or the private sector. This rule makes only minor changes to 43 CFR part 2. A statement containing the information required by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (2 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) is not required.

### **5. Takings (E.O. 12630).**

In accordance with Executive Order 12630, the rule does not have significant takings implications. This rule makes only minor changes to 43 CFR part 2. A takings implication assessment is not required.

### **6. Federalism (E.O. 13132).**

In accordance with Executive Order 13132, this rule does not have any federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment. The rule is not associated with, nor will it have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. A Federalism Assessment is not required.

#### **7. Civil Justice Reform (E.O. 12988).**

This rule complies with the requirements of Executive Order 12988. Specifically, this rule:

- a. Does not unduly burden the judicial system.
- b. Meets the criteria of section 3(a) requiring that all regulations be reviewed to eliminate errors and ambiguity and be written to minimize litigation; and
- c. Meets the criteria of section 3(b)(2) requiring that all regulations be written in clear language and contain clear legal standards.

#### **8. Consultation with Indian Tribes (E.O. 13175).**

In accordance with Executive Order 13175, the Department of the Interior has evaluated this rule and determined that it would have no substantial effects on federally recognized Indian Tribes.

#### **9. Paperwork Reduction Act.**

This rule does not require an information collection from 10 or more parties and a submission under the Paperwork Reduction Act is not required.

#### **10. National Environmental Policy Act.**

This rule does not constitute a major Federal action and would not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, this rule does not require the

preparation of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement under the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

#### **11. Effects on Energy Supply (E.O. 13211).**

This rule is not a significant energy action under the definition in Executive Order 13211.

A Statement of Energy Effects is not required.

#### **List of Subjects in 43 CFR part 2**

Administrative practice and procedure, Classified information, Courts, Freedom of information, Government employees, Privacy

**Dated:** August 12, 2014

**Signed:** Amy Holley  
Chief of Staff, Policy, Management and Budget

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Department of the Interior amends 43 CFR part 2 as follows:

#### **PART 2 - - FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT; RECORDS AND TESTIMONY**

1. The authority citation for part 2 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301, 552, 552a, 553; 31 U.S.C. 3717; 43 U.S.C. 1460, 1461.

2. In § 2.254, add paragraphs (b)(14) and (c)(4) to read as follows:

#### **§ 2.254 Exemptions.**

(b)\*\*\*

(14) Debarment and Suspension Program, DOI-11.

\*\*\*\*\*

(c)\*\*\*

(4) Debarment and Suspension Program, DOI-11.

\*\*\*\*\*

[FR Doc. 2014-19651 Filed 08/18/2014 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 08/19/2014]